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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/047,320	03/24/1998	RAYMOND LI	0100.01142	3118

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EXAMINER
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NGUYEN, HAU H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2628

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/047,320

Applicant(s)

LI, RAYMOND

Examiner

Hau H. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, filed February 06, 2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection is made as follows.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-3, 6-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Combs (U.S. Patent No. 5,761,698).

Referring to claim 1, Combs teaches a video graphics and audio processing circuit (Figs. 1 and 4) comprising: a graphics processing circuit (blitter 70, Fig. 4); an audio processing circuit

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(DSP 74 and audio codec 46, Fig. 1B); a local bus operably coupled to transceive data to and from the graphics processing circuit and the audio processing circuit (bus 61, Fig. 4); and a bus arbitrator operably coupled to the local bus, the graphics processing circuit, and the audio processing circuit (col. 5, lines 25-50), wherein the bus arbitrator interprets incoming data and provides the incoming data to the audio graphics processing circuit or to the video graphics processing circuit, and wherein the bus arbitrator arbitrates outputting data on the bus from the graphics processing circuit and the audio processing circuit (by granting the bus 61 to the graphics processing unit 70 or the audio processing circuit 74 based on their priority) (col. 12, lines 25-35).

In regard to claim 2, Combs teaches the bus arbitrator comprises an address decoder (decoding address range from the CPU) operably coupled to receive an address via the bus (61), to route received data to the audio processing circuit when the address identifies the audio processing circuit and to route received data to the graphics processing circuit when the address identifies the graphics processing circuit (as cited above, and also col. 18, lines 44-56).

In regard to claim 3, Combs also teaches the address decoder comprises control circuitry that generates an output data control signal based on the address and a data command signal (for graphics, col. 20, lines 20-53; for audio, col. 33, lines 42-52).

Claims 6-23, which are similar in scope to claims 1-3, are thus rejected under the same rationale.

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Combs (U.S. Patent No. 5,761,698) in view of Post (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,426).

Referring to claims 4 and 5, although Combs did not disclose an output data switch comprising an audio buffer and a graphics buffer to output data based on the output date control signal, this is what Post teaches. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, Post teaches a method of parsing audio and video packets to the respective audio and video decoder, and also teaches an audio and video buffer to output corresponding data (Fig. 1C, col. 3, lines 40-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to utilize the method as taught by Post in combination with the method as taught by Combs in order to provide an efficient method for processing multimedia streams.

***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892 form.

Maturi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,559,999) discloses routing video data and audio data to the corresponding processing units.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hau H. Nguyen whose telephone number is: 571-272-7787. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30-5:30.

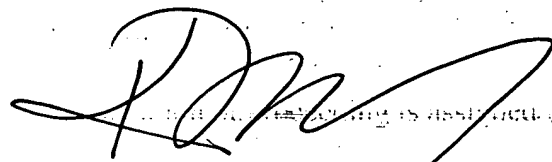
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-2 17-9197 (toll-free).

H. Nguyen

6/7/2006



**Kee M. Tung**  
**Primary E**  
**Kee M. Tung**  
**Primary Examiner**